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3.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the client computer and the server computer are communicatively coupled to one another through an intranet.

4.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the client computer and the server computer are communicatively coupled to one another through an extranet.

5.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein authenticating the user at the server computer comprises associating the user with at least one of a particular directory on the server computer, a set of defaults regarding fonts, colors, images and commands available to the user, and an authorization level selected from the group of authorization levels essentially comprising normal, administrator, and demonstration.

6.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the authoring program downloaded from the server computer to the client computer is coded in a language selected from the group essentially comprising Perl, Java, C++, C, and ActiveX.

7.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the document is selected from the group essentially comprising a business card, a letterhead, an envelope, and a brochure.

8.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the authoring program comprises a color palette area to select a color from a palette of colors.

9.   The computerized prepress method of claim 8, wherein the palette of colors comprises the palette of colors available from one selected from the group essentially comprising Pantone, Toyo, Focaltone, and Tru-Match.

10.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein using the authoring program at the client computer to create a document comprises sending desired text from the client computer to the server computer for translation into an image and sending the image from the server

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computer back to the client computer.

11.   The computerized prepress method of claim 10, wherein the image is in a format selected from the group essentially comprising GIF, TIFF, and JPEG.

12.   The computerized prepress method of claim 10, wherein the image has a maximum resolution of 4:1.

13.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the document includes one or more images, at least one of the images being in a format selected from the group essentially comprising encapsulated PostScript, TIFF, GIF, and JPEG.

14.   The computerized prepress method of claim 13, wherein at least one of the images has a maximum resolution of 1:1.

15.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein the different format is selected from a group essentially comprising PostScript, HTML, PDF, and PostScript Extreme.

16.   The computerized prepress method of claim 1, wherein sending the document in the different format to the printer comprises generating an electronic mail for submission to the printer including an attachment comprising the document in the different format.

17.   The computerized prepress method of claim 16, wherein the electronic mail is MIME-compliant.

18.   A computerized prepress system comprising:

        a server having stored thereon an authoring program to create a document and a translation program to translate the document to a suitable prepress format;

        a client downloading the authoring program from the server to create the document, which is uploaded to the server for translation to the suitable prepress format; and,

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a printer receiving the document as translated to the suitable prepress format from the server.

19.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server, the client and the printer are communicatively coupled to one another through the Internet.

20.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server, the client and the printer are communicatively coupled to one another through an intranet.

21.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server, the client and the printer are communicatively coupled to one another through an extranet.

22.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server comprises an Internet world-wide-web server.

23.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server comprises an intranet world-wide-web server.

24.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the server comprises an extranet world-wide-web server.

25.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the authoring program runs on the client in an Internet world-wide-web browser program.

26.   The computerized prepress system of claim 25, wherein the browser program is selected from the group essentially comprising Netscape Navigator and Microsoft Internet Explorer.

27.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the authoring program runs on the client in an intranet world-wide-web browser program.

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28.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the authoring program runs on the client in an extranet world-wide-web browser program.

29.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the authoring program is coded in a language selected from the group essentially comprising Perl, Java, C++, C, and ActiveX.

30.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the document is selected from the group essentially comprising a business card, a letterhead, an envelope, and a brochure.

31.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the authoring program comprises a color palette area to select a color from a palette of colors.

32.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the suitable prepress format is selected from a group essentially comprising PostScript, HTML, PDF, and PostScript Extreme.

33.   The computerized prepress system of claim 18, wherein the printer receives the document from the server via an electronic mail to which the document is included as an attachment.

34.   A client computer comprising:
       a processor;
       a computer-readable medium;
       a communications device;
       an operating environment program executed by the processor from the medium; and,
       an authoring program downloaded from a server through the communications device and executed by the processor from the medium within the operating environment program,
       such that the authoring program is used to create a document, which is uploaded to the server through the communications device for translation to a suitable prepress format and submission to a printer.

35.   The client computer of claim 34, wherein the computer-readable medium is selected from

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the group essentially comprising memory and a nonvolatile storage medium.

36. The client computer of claim 34, wherein the communications device is selected from the group essentially comprising a modem and a network card.

37. The client computer of claim 34, wherein the operating environment program comprises an Internet world-wide-web browser program.

38. The client computer of claim 34, wherein the operating environment program comprises an intranet world-wide-web browser program.

39. The client computer of claim 34, wherein the operating environment program comprises an extranet world-wide-web browser program.

40. A server computer comprising:

a processor;

a computer-readable medium;

a communications device;

an authoring program stored on the computer-readable medium for downloading through the communications device and use by a client to create a document; and,

a translation program executed by the processor from the computer-readable medium to translate the document to a suitable prepress format and send the document as translated to a printer through the communications device.

41. The server computer of claim 40, wherein the computer-readable medium is selected from the group essentially comprising memory and a nonvolatile storage medium.

42. The server computer of claim 40, wherein the communications device is selected from the group essentially comprising a modem and a network card.

43.   A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon for downloading to a client computer from a server computer and for execution on the client computer within an operating environment program, the program comprising means for creating a document, which is uploaded to the server through a communications device for translation to a suitable prepress format and submission to a printer.

44.   A computer-readable medium having a computer program stored thereon for execution on a server computer, the program comprising:

     means downloadable to a client computer for creating a document; and,

     means for translating the document to a suitable prepress format and for sending the document as translated to a printer through a communications device of the server computer.

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action mailed on April 30, 1999, and the references cited therewith. The claims are repeated above, but are not amended in any respect. The applicant sincerely thanks the examiner for the apparently thorough job done in examining the application and the effort expended to document the examiner's position.

BACKGROUND OF THIS ART

The publishing process typically requires several steps to successfully complete a printed publication. Such steps include planning and organizing, design and content development, and prepress tasks where electronic files are prepared to be reproduced with ink on paper. Broadly speaking, prepress involves the preparation of all the electronic files that will be utilized to create a publication printed with paper and ink. For a professional publication, this usually involves utilizing an authoring program to create the electronic version of the publication itself, and then using another program (which may be a component of the authoring program), to translate this electronic version into a format from which paper and ink copies of the publication can be printed.

Portions if not all of the prepress process is difficult for non-professionals to accomplish, however. While tools such as Adobe PageMaker and Quark Express enable professionals to